

In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for operating an electronic  
2 module (10) supplied with electrical energy by an operating  
3 voltage source ( $U_{\text{Bat}}$ ) with a circuit unit (3) for carrying  
4 out at least one system function, wherein in the event of  
5 an operating voltage interruption [[the]] from the  
6 operating voltage source ( $U_{\text{Bat}}$ ), a further operating voltage  
7 ( $U_s$ ) is supplied by a system-autonomous capacitor ( $C_s$ ) and  
8 the system function can be activated by means of the an  
9 energy reserve supplied by a function-autonomous capacitor  
10 ( $C_z$ ) and wherein furthermore the system-autonomous capacitor  
11 ( $C_s$ ) is charged by a voltage converter (1) connected to the  
12 operating voltage source ( $U_{\text{Bat}}$ ), characterized in that the  
13 function-autonomous capacitor [[+e\_s]] ( $C_z$ ) is connected to  
14 the voltage converter (1) and to the system-autonomous  
15 capacitor ( $C_s$ ) by means of a charging connection (5) and in  
16 that said charging connection (5) is controllable in  
17 following operating states:  
18 a) as a switch for clocking the charging current charging  
19 that charges the function-autonomous capacitor  
20 [[+e\_s]] ( $C_z$ ), and  
21 b) as a controllable resistance for producing a constant  
22 discharging current for checking testing the  
23 system-autonomous capacitor ( $C_s$ ) and for producing a  
24 re-loading re-charging current for re-loading  
25 re-charging the function-autonomous capacitor ( $C_z$ ).

1 2. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1,  
2 characterized in that ~~for checking the testing of the~~ the system-autonomous capacitor ( $C_s$ ) ~~it is discharged comprises~~  
3 ~~discharging the system-autonomous capacitor ( $C_s$ ) by the~~  
4 ~~discharging current into the function-autonomous~~  
5 ~~capacitor ( $C_z$ ).~~

Claims 3 to 5 (canceled).

1 6. (Currently amended) ~~[[\*]] The~~ method according to claim 1,  
2 characterized in that the charging connection (5)  
3 ~~is established by means of~~ comprises at least one  
4 transistor element (T) and ~~[[by]]~~ a resistance (R) which is  
5 series-connected to ~~[[it.]]~~ said transistor element.

1 7. (Currently amended) ~~[[\*]] The~~ method according to claim 1,  
2 characterized in that an up-converter is used as ~~[[a]]~~ said  
3 voltage converter (1).

1 8. (Currently amended) Use of the method according to claim 1  
2 in a motor vehicle control device with a power module (3)  
3 as ~~[[a]]~~ said circuit unit for triggering a ~~security unit~~  
4 vehicle collision safety device (4), wherein in the event  
5 of ~~[[an]]~~ the operating voltage interruption the system  
6 function ~~[[is]]~~ comprises the provision of the energy  
7 reserve as an ignition energy for said vehicle collision  
8 safety device by means of the function-autonomous capacitor  
9 serving as an ignition-autonomous capacitor ( $C_z$ ).